

REMARKS

Claims 1-63 are pending in the present application. Base Claims 1 and 33 have been amended. Support for these claim amendments can be found at least on page 2 lines 23-28 and page 5, lines 11-15 of the Specification as originally filed. No new matter is being introduced by way of these amendments.

Claims 1-2, 6-14, 16-18, 24-34, 38-45, 47-49 and 55-63 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBMVersa (Storage Networking Virtualization, What's it all about? Blunden et al., December 2000, IBM) hereafter "IBMVersa" in view of Ora9iAS (Oracle9iAS Clickstream Intelligence Administrator's Guide, Release 2 (9.0.2), May 2002, Oracle) hereafter "Ora9iAS."

Briefly referring to Applicants' specification, one embodiment of the present invention provides distributing to one or more storage units control over portions of a materialized view, each storage unit storing portions of the materialized view that correspond to portions of a base table stored on that storage unit. The maintenance of the portions of the materialized view may then be performed by the respective storage unit independent of a host controller. In this way, the present invention provides a way of maintaining materialized views (Specification, p. 5, ll. 11-15).

In contrast, IBMVersa is directed to virtualization of storage systems rather than maintaining materialized views. Stated differently, IBMVersa does not teach maintaining materialized views as indicated in the Office Action on page 3, lines 6-7 ("IBMVersa does not explicitly teach maintaining materialized views of a data source in the storage system"). Since IBMVersa does not teach maintaining materialized views, IBMVersa cannot teach distributing control of portions of a materialized view as claimed in base Claim 1 ("distributing to respective storage units control of portions of a materialized view") as now amended.

Similar to IBMVersa, Ora9iAS does not teach distributing to respective storage units control of portions of a materialized view. Instead, Ora9iAS provides creating partitions for a materialized view. To create a partition, Ora9iAS accepts parameters for both a name of the materialized view and a single table space (e.g., a storage system) where the materialized view is located. (Ora9iAS, B-18-B-19). In this way, Ora9iAS allows for the materialized view to be

configured, i.e. partitioned, within a table space. By design, Ora9iAS' partition of a materialized view is stored and controlled on the table space parameter that was specified. However, this partition is not separated into multiple partitions, i.e. portions, nor is control of a partition capable of being distributed. Therefore, Ora9iAS does not teach distributing to respective storage units control of portions of a materialized view as claimed in base Claim 1 as now amended.

Accordingly, neither IBMVersa nor Ora9iAS individually or in any combination imply, suggest or make obvious the claimed method or system for "*distributing to respective storage units control of portions of a materialized view*" as claimed in base Claim 1 as now amended. Independent base Claim 33 has similar limitations. Dependent Claims 2, 6-14, 16-18, 24-32, 34, 38-45, 47-49 and 55-63 inherit these limitations from respective base claims. Thus, the § 103 rejection of Claims 1-2, 6-14, 16-18, 24-34, 38-45, 47-49 and 55-63 using IBMVersa in view of Ora9iAS is believed to be overcome. Acceptance is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-5, 15, 35-37 and 46 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBMVersa in view of Ora9iAS as applied to Claims 1-2, 9, 14, 33-34, 41 and 45 above, and further in view of LeCrone et al. (U.S. Patent 6,308,284) hereafter "LeCrone."

Like IBMVersa and Ora9iAS, LeCrone does not teach maintaining materialized views as claimed in base Claim 1. Further, LeCrone does NOT add to IBMVersa and Ora9iAS the claimed feature of "*distributing to respective storage units control of portions of a materialized view*" as claimed in base Claim 1 as now amended. Independent base Claim 33, as now amended, has similar limitations. Thus no combination of LeCrone, IBMVersa and Ora9iAS implies, suggests or otherwise makes obvious the present invention as now claimed.

Dependent Claims 3-5 and 15 depend from base Claim 1. Dependent Claims 35-37 and 46 depend from base Claim 33. Thus the foregoing arguments also apply to each of the dependent claims. As such the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of Claims 3-5, 15, 35-37 and 46 is believed to be overcome. Acceptance is respectfully requested.

Claims 19-23 and 50-54 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBMVersa in view of Ora9iAS as applied to Claims 1 and 33 above, and further in view of Okada et al. (U.S. Publication 2002/0040413) hereafter "Okada."

Like IBMVersa and Ora9iAS, Okada does not teach maintaining materialized views as claimed in base Claim 1. Further, Okada does NOT add to IBMVersa and Ora9iAS the claimed feature of “*distributing to respective storage units control of portions of a materialized view*” as claimed in base Claim 1 as now amended. Independent base Claim 33, as now amended, has similar limitations. Thus no combination of Okada, IBMVersa and Ora9iAS implies, suggests or otherwise makes obvious the present invention as now claimed.

Dependent Claims 19-23 depend from base Claim 1. Dependent Claims 50-54 depend from base Claim 33. Thus the foregoing arguments also apply to each of the dependent claims. As such the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of Claims 19-23 and 50-54 is believed to be overcome. Acceptance is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims (Claims 1-63) are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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